

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
MINUTES

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
Lake City, Florida

August 24, 2017
7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia Bouie, City of Hawthorne
LaBarfield Bryant, City of Jasper
James Catron, City of Madison
Charles Chestnut IV, Alachua County
Ken Cornell, Alachua County
Louie Davis, City of Waldo
Rick Davis, Madison County
Thomas Demps, Taylor County
Fletcher Hope, City of Archer
William Hunter, Hamilton County
John Meeks, Levy County
Janice Mortimer, City of Starke
Tim Murphy, Columbia County
Garth Nobles, Jr., City of Live Oak
Daniel Riddick, Bradford County
Larry Sessions, Suwannee County
James Tallman, Union County
Kenrick Thomas, Gilchrist County
Lorene Thomas, Dixie County
Robert Wilford, City of Alachua

NON-VOTING DELEGATE PRESENT

None

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT

Barney Bennett, Florida Department
of Transportation
Sean Greene, Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission
Katelyn Potter, Suwannee River
Water Management District
James Troiano, St. Johns Water
Management District

COUNCIL ATTORNEY

Jonathan Wershow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Anthony Adams, Lafayette County
David Arreola, City of Gainesville
Harvey Budd, City of Gainesville
Beth Burnam, Hamilton County
Rick Coleman, City of Newberry
Mike Deming, City of Perry
Jason Evans, City of High Springs
Jason Holifield, Dixie County
Robert Hutchinson, Alachua County
James Montgomery, Columbia County
Helen Warren, City of Gainesville
Daniel Webb, Union County
Mike Williams, Madison County
Stephen Witt, City of Lake City

OTHERS PRESENT

Sandra Buck-Camp
Diana Davis
Brian Kaufman
Stew Lilker
Joseph Riddick
Patrick Simeone
Donna Wise

STAFF PRESENT

Steven Dopp
Michael Escalante
Scott Koons
Jean Strong
Tara Tucker

Board Members names are bolded
Gubernatorial Members names are italicized

I. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with an invocation given by Commissioner Wilford and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chair Thomas stated that there was a quorum of the Council.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Thomas welcomed and introduced Brian Kaufmann, County Coordinator from Madison County; Sandra Buck-Camp, member of the Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board; Joseph Riddick, former Council member and father of Commissioner Daniel Riddick; Patrick Simeone, citizen from Lee County; Diana Davis, wife of Council member Louie Davis and Stew Lilker from the Columbia County Observer.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Thomas asked that Item VIII.A. - Proclamation Declaring September 24, 2017 as James Montgomery Day in the north central Florida region and Item VIII.B.4. #74 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment be added to the agenda and approve the agenda, as amended.

ACTION: Councilman Bryant made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to add Item VIII.A. - a Proclamation Declaring September 24, 2017 as James Montgomery Day in north central Florida region and Item VIII.B.4. #74 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment to the agenda and approve the agenda, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. ATTORNEY-CLIENT SESSION

Chair Thomas stated at this time, that the Council would be convening for an Attorney-Client Session concerning the public records lawsuit brought by HPS Enterprises II, LLC against the Council. She further stated that the only persons that can be in attendance at the Attorney-Client Session are voting Council members, the Council Attorney, the Executive Director and a court reporter.

Chair Thomas also stated that a verbatim transcript of the Attorney-Client Session will be prepared and will become public record at the conclusion of the legal proceedings that are the subject of the Attorney-Client Session. She stated that it is anticipated that the Attorney-Client Session will last approximately 30 minutes. Chair Thomas further stated at the conclusion of the Attorney-Client Session the regular Council meeting would resume. She then stated that the regular Council meeting was in recess and asked persons not eligible to attend the Attorney-Client Session to leave the meeting room.

At this time, the Council held an Attorney-Client Session to discuss the public records lawsuit brought by HPS Enterprises II, LLC against the Council with the following persons in attendance - Council voting members: Patricia Bouie, LaBarfield Bryant, James Catron, Charles Chestnut, IV, Ken Cornell, Louie Davis, Rick Davis, Thomas Demps, Fletcher Hope, William Hunter, John Meeks, Janice Mortimer, Tim Murphy, Garth Nobles, Jr., Daniel Riddick, Larry Sessions, James Tallman, Kendrick Thomas, Lorene Thomas, and Robert Wilford; Jonathan Wershow, Council Attorney; Scott Koons, Executive Director; and Donna Wise, court reporter.

Following the conclusion of the Attorney-Client Session, the regular Council meeting was reconvened.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 27, 2017

Chair Thomas asked that the minutes of the July 27, 2017 meeting be approved as written.

ACTION: Commissioner Catron made the motion, with a second by Councilman Bryant, to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2017 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Monthly Financial Report - March 2017
- B. Local Government Comprehensive Planning Assistance Service Agreements
Fiscal Year 2017-18
- C. Hazardous Waste Monitoring Verification and Notification Service Agreements
Fiscal Year 2017-18

Chair Thomas asked if there were any questions regarding the items on the Consent Agenda and requested that these items be approved.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Meeks, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. CHAIR'S REPORT - Certificates of Service for Council Employee

Scott Koons, Executive Director, introduced Michael Escalante, who has been an employee of the Council for 30 years and currently serves as Senior Planner for Transportation Planning. Chair Thomas presented a 30-year Certificate of Service and pin to him. Mr. Koons and Chair Thomas thanked him for his years of dedicated service to the Council.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Executive Committee - Proclamation Declaring September 24, 2017 James Montgomery Day

Mr. Koons stated that in recognition of the service of James Montgomery to the North Florida Regional Planning Council, a proclamation declaring September 24, 2017 as James Montgomery Day in the north central Florida region is recommended by the Executive Committee for approval by the Council. He stated that Mr. Montgomery served on the Council from 1975 to 2004 as a member representing the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County. Mr. Koons noted that in 2010 Mr. Montgomery was appointed as a gubernatorial appointee from Columbia County. He further noted that Mr. Montgomery has provided 38 years of distinguished leadership and service to the Council and his 38 years of service is the longest of any member of the Council since its creation in 1969.

Mr. Koons further stated that Mr. Montgomery has served three times as Chair of the Council. He noted that Mr. Montgomery currently serves as Chair of the Clearinghouse Committee, a member of the Regional Planning Committee and a member of the Board of Directors of the Council. Mr. Koons stated that Mr. Montgomery will be recognized and honored as man for all seasons for his many years of service as a teacher for the Columbia County School System, an instructor for Florida Gateway College, a member of the First Presbyterian Church and for his service on innumerable civic boards, committees and projects on September 24, 2017 at the James Montgomery Appreciation Day to be held at 3:00 p.m. at the Columbia County Fairgrounds.

ACTION: Mayor Davis made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Cornell to approve a proclamation declaring September 24, 2017 as James Montgomery Day in north central Florida region. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Clearinghouse Committee

Commissioner Chestnut, Clearinghouse Committee member, gave the Clearinghouse Committee report. He stated that the Clearinghouse Committee met earlier in the evening and reviewed the following local government comprehensive plan amendments which were included on the Council agenda for consideration.

- #98 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #99 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment
- #100 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

Commissioner Chestnut stated subsequent to the distribution of the Council meeting packet, the Council received the following late-arriving item which require action prior to the next meeting.

- #101 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment

He reported that the Committee finds that that the local government comprehensive plans, as amended, are not anticipated to result in significant adverse impacts to regional facilities, Natural Resources of Regional Significance or adjacent local governments.

Commissioner Chestnut stated that the Committee recommends forwarding these findings to the respective local governments and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

ACTION: Commissioner Chestnut made the motion, with a second by Commissioner Wilford, to approve the Committee recommendation concerning Item #98 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; Item #99 - City of Gainesville Comprehensive Plan Adopted Amendment; #100 - Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment; and #101 - Madison County Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

Barney Bennett, Florida Department of Transportation, District 2, stated the Department will be holding a Local Agency Program Workshop for local governments on August 29, 2017 in Lake City and that Department Tentative Five-Year Work Program public hearings will be held on October 19, 2017 at the Department Urban Area Office in Jacksonville and on October 24, 2017 at the Department District 2 Office in Lake City.

Katelyn Potter, Suwannee River Water Management District, stated that the District recently awarded \$1.4 million to local governments for river projects and will be awarding \$16.4 million to local governments for springs projects.

James Troiano, St. Johns Water Management District, discussed the District Black Creek Water Resource Development project in the Keystone Heights area.

Sean Greene, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission stated that the Commission is currently updating the State Wildlife Action Plan.

X. CITIZEN COMMENTS - None

XI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Florida Regional Councils Association Monthly Activity Report

Mr. Koons reported that the Florida Regional Councils Association is the statewide organization of the ten regional planning councils. The Association strengthens Florida's regional planning councils, partners with government and the business community to enhance regional economic prosperity and improves the consistency and quality of regional planning councils programs to ensure they add value to state, regional and local initiatives. He stated that the Association strives to accomplish these goals by carrying out the activities listed in the July 2017 activities report included in the Council meeting packet.

B. Florida Chamber Foundation Scorecard™

Mr. Koons stated that the Florida Chamber Foundation has developed the Florida Scorecard™ to provide Florida leaders the metrics needed to secure Florida's future. The Florida Chamber Foundation's objective to develop a 20-year, statewide strategic plan requires a commitment to measuring our current status and progress toward the stated goals of the Six Pillars 20-year Strategic Plan. He further stated that the Scorecard reports metrics related to each of the Six Pillars. The Six Pillars are Talent Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth Leadership, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems and Quality of Life and Quality Places. He reviewed the August 2017 Scorecard™ included in the Council meeting packet.

C. Regional Dispute Resolution Process

Mr. Koons stated that the Council received a request for an informal pre-initiation meeting as specified in Chapter 29C-8 from Alachua County concerning a comprehensive plan amendment challenge the County has filed against the City of Gainesville which is currently the subject of an administrative hearing proceeding. He further stated that Council staff met with County staff on August 15, 2017 for the informal pre-initiation meeting to ascertain whether the process is appropriate for resolving the above referenced dispute.

Mr. Koons stated it was determined at the informal pre-initiation meeting that the process would be appropriate for resolving the above referenced dispute and the next step in the process is for the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners to consider the adoption of a resolution to formally initiate the process.

D. Public Records Complaint

Council Attorney Jonathon Wershow recommended that the Council settle the public records lawsuit brought against the Council by HPS Enterprises II, LLC for the amount of \$17,000.

ACTION: Mr. Hunter made a motion, with a second by Commissioner Catron to settle the public records lawsuit brought by HPS Enterprises II, LLC against the Council provided that the stipulated settlement agreement states that the Council does not acknowledge any violation of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, concerning public records.

ACTION: Commissioner Cornell made a substitute motion, with a second by Commissioner Tallman to continue to litigate the public records lawsuit brought by HPS Enterprises II, LLC against the Council and issue a press release concerning such action.

Following discussion by the Council, Commissioner Davis called the question to terminate debate.

ACTION: Vote on call for question to terminate debate by Commissioner Davis. Call for question to terminate debate passed with 19 ayes and one nay.

ACTION: Commissioner Cornell's substitute motion, with a second by Commissioner Tallman to continue to litigate the public records lawsuit brought by HPS Enterprises II, LLC against the Council and issue a press release concerning such action did not pass with three ayes and 17 nays.

ACTION: Mr. Hunter's motion, with a second by Commissioner Catron to settle the public records lawsuit brought by HPS Enterprises II, LLC against the Council provided that the stipulated settlement agreement states that the Council does not acknowledge any violation of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, concerning public records passed with 17 ayes and three nays.

E. Florida Job Growth Grant Program

Mr. Koons reviewed the \$85 million new Florida Job Growth Grant Program enacted by the Legislative during the Special Legislative Session held in June 2017. He noted funds can be used for either infrastructure or workforce development. Mr. Koons also reported that the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has received 97 applications totaling \$302 million to date.

Chair Thomas informed the Council that the next Council meeting will be held on September 28, 2017. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


Lorene J. Thomas, Chair

9/28/17
Date



PROCLAMATION

DECLARING SEPTEMBER 24, 2017 AS JAMES MONTGOMERY DAY

WHEREAS, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is a multi-county association of local governments dedicated to improving the quality of life of the citizens of north central Florida by coordinating growth management, protecting regional resources, promoting economic development and providing technical services to local governments;

WHEREAS, James Montgomery has provided 38 years of distinguished leadership and service representing the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida and the Governor of the State of Florida on the Council;

WHEREAS, James Montgomery is the longest serving member on the North Central Regional Planning Council since its creation in 1969;

WHEREAS, James Montgomery has served as Chair of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council in 1983-84, 1994-95, and 2001-03;

WHEREAS, James Montgomery currently serves as Chair of the Clearinghouse Committee, a member of the Regional Planning Committee and a member of the Board of Directors of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council; and

WHEREAS, James Montgomery will be recognized and honored as man for all seasons for his many years of service as a teacher for the Columbia County School System, an instructor for Florida Gateway College, a member of the First Presbyterian Church and for his service on innumerable civic boards, committees and projects on September 24, 2017.


NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the outstanding contributions made to Columbia County and the citizens of north central Florida by James Montgomery as a dedicated public servant and civic leader, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council hereby declares September 24, 2017 as James Montgomery Day throughout the north central Florida region.

DULY ADOPTED AND PROCLAIMED this 24th day of August 2017.

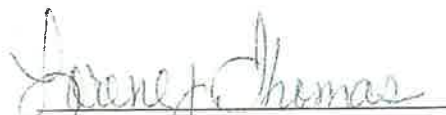
Attest:

NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA
REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

SEAL



Louie Davis
Secretary-Treasurer



Lorene J. Thomas
Chair